

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 03218 271343Z

53

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 SAM-01 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12 ACDA-05 /085 W

----- 074416

R 271218Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

SECSTATE WASHDC 6824

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

CONFIDENTIAL TEL AVIV 3218

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS SY XF

SUBJECT: RATIONALE FOR SYRIAN UNDOF EXTENSION

REF: DAMASCUS 1934

1. SUBJECT OF SYRIAN REASONING BEHIND SIX MONTH EXTENSION
OF UNDOF HAS ALSO RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE SPECULATIVE ATTEN-
TION IN ISRAEL. ISRAELIS WERE SURPRISED BY SYRIAN DECISION, BUT
THINKING HERE HAS BEEN ALONG LINES THAT SYRIANS WERE (1) ANXIOUS
NOT TO RISK TROUBLE AT TIME WHEN THEIR RELATIONS WITH
IRAQ WERE UNDER REAL STRESS, AND (2) TRYING TO PUT EGYPT
OUT AHEAD BY HAVING SYRIAN EXTENSION LAST BEYOND
ADDITIONAL TWO MONTH PERIOD ABOUT WHICH THERE HAD BEEN
SO MUCH SPECULATION. SIX MONTH EXTENSION GIVES SYRIANS
GREATER FREEDOM OF ACTION, IT IS THOUGHT HERE.

2. WE HAVE NOTED VIEW EXPRESSED IN REF (PARA 6) THAT
EMBASSY DAMASCUS BELIEVES THAT ON PURELY MILITARY GROUNDS,
SYRIANS WOULD PREFER ACTION AGAINST ISRAEL IN WINTER RATHER
THAN SUMMER. IT HAS BEEN CONVENTIONAL VIEW HERE THAT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEL AV 03218 271343Z

WINTER OPERATIONS ON GOLAN WERE LIKELY TO BE SO DIFFICULT

THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE INITIATED.

3. IN DATT MSG LAST FALL (291318Z OCT 74.
TEXT BEING REPEATED TO DAMASCUS), ATTENTION WAS CALLED
TO POSSIBILITY THIS CONVENTIONAL WISDOM MIGHT
NOT BE CONTROLLING IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES.
THAT MESSAGE DID NOT STIMULATE COMMENT AT THE TIME.
WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN LEARNING IF
THERE HAVE BEEN RECENT DEVELOPMENTS WHICH MAY HAVE LED
TO SYRIAN RECONSIDERATION OF NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF WINTER
WARFARE.
VELIOTES

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL STABILITY, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES, MILITARY PLANS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 MAY 1975
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TELAV03218
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750184-1018
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750515/aaaaanoh.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 DAMASCUS 1934
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <28 NOV 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RATIONALE FOR SYRIAN UNDOF EXTENSION
TAGS: PFOR, IS, SY, XF, UNDOF
To: DAMASCUS STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006